



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

May 16, 2001

Contact: Patrick Lacefield 240-777-7939 Jean Arthur 240-777-7934

COUNTY COUNCIL LIMITS GUN SHOWS

**N
E
W
S

R
E
L
E
A
S
E**

The County Council voted today to further restrict gun shows by prohibiting them in or within 100 yards of multipurpose facilities and limiting funding to organizations sponsoring such shows.

County law already prohibits gun sales or transfers within 100 yards of a place of worship, elementary or secondary school, public library, or government-owned or operated recreational facility.

"This is a reasonable and prudent measure designed to reduce the easy availability of guns," said Council President Ewing. "This is a great victory for Montgomery County families."

The Council also voted to cut off county government funding to any organization that allows gun shows in its facilities. Also, organizations that receive county funding after December 1, 2001 will have to repay the county with interest, if, after receiving the funding, the organization allows the sale and/or display of guns before December 1, 2011.

Additionally, any organization that promotes or sponsors a gun show admitting minors generally must prohibit all other public activities at the place during the time of the show. The organizer must provide adequate professional security and certify to the police, at least 30 days before the event, that the show will comply with all county laws.

The legislation, which was introduced by Council President Blair Ewing and co-sponsored by Council Vice President Steve Silverman and Councilmember Derick Berlage, passed with a 5-4 vote. In addition to the sponsors, Councilmembers Howard Denis and Isiah Leggett voted in favor of the bill.

###